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EXAMINER

YODER III, CHRISS S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2612

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/022,068

Applicant(s)

JACKEL ET AL.

Examiner

Chriss S. Yoder, III

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 January 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1, 6-9, 11, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (US Patent # 6,721,001) in view of Strandwitz et al. (US Patent # 6,522,352) and in further view of Bodnar et al. (US Publication # 2004/0218045).
2. In regard to claim 1, note Berstis discloses the use of an interactive digital electronic camera system (figure 1: 102-130 is considered to be the camera system) comprising a wireless digital electronic camera (column 2, lines 15-36) including camera elements for capturing image information (column 2, lines 55-60; and figure 2: 204) and digitizing the same for storing in a memory unit in said camera (column 2, lines 55-65; and figure 2: 206 and 214), an audio element including a microphone and storage arrangement for recording audio input (column 2, lines 55-65; and figure 2: 210), a microprocessor for storing recorded images and audio information and associating one with the other (column 3, lines 18-23; and figure 2: 208 and 214), and processing and compressing the stored files for transmission (column 3, lines 18-24), a wireless modem arrangement coupled to the microprocessor for transmitting compressed image and audio information over an associated wireless packet network (column 2, lines 34-36) to

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a defined network-based server (column 2, lines 40-46), a wireless communication link between said wireless digital electronic camera and a data communication network (column 2, lines 34-36), and a network-based server for communicating with said wireless digital electronic camera (column 2, lines 40-46).

Therefore, it can be seen that Berstis fails to disclose a camera having a speaker for playing received audio signals and receiving information for storage in said microprocessor. Strandwitz discloses the use of a speaker for playing received audio signals (column 3, lines 30-40; and figure 3:150) and incoming information is received in said microprocessor (column 3, lines 30-40; and figure 2: 150; in the Berstis device the communications are controlled by the microprocessor, therefore, the Strandwitz device is relied on for its receiving and playback capability). It is commonly known in the art that the use of a speaker for playback is preferred in order to review previously recorded sound clips (i.e. annotations) for communication/editing purposes. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Berstis device to include the use of a speaker for playing received audio signals and receiving information for storage in said microprocessor as suggested by Strandwitz.

Therefore, it can also be seen that Berstis fails to disclose having a network-based server that configures the received image and audio information for presentation to viewers and retrieves web site address information from the received image and audio information and forwards the received information to the defined web site. Bodnar discloses the use of a network-based server that configures the received image and audio information for presentation to viewers (paragraph 0088, lines 8-12) and

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retrieves web site address information from the received image and audio information and forwards the received information to the defined web site (paragraph 0091, lines 5-10). Bodnar teaches that the use of a network-based server that configures the received image and audio for presentation and forwarding the information to a defined web site is preferred in order to automate the process of uploading pictures to a website for others to view over the web (paragraph 0010). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Berstis device to include the use of a network-based server that configures the received image and audio information for presentation to viewers and retrieves web site address information from the received image and audio information and forwards the received information to the defined web site as suggested by Bodnar.

3. In regard to claim 6, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless digital camera system as claimed in claim 1. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose the use of a wireless modem comprising a cellular digital packet data (CDPD) PCMCIA modem. Official notice is taken that the concepts and advantages of using cellular digital packet data (CDPD) PCMCIA components are notoriously well known and expected in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary reference to include the use of PCMCIA components in the digital camera in order to allow the user to change the type communications and to allow the upgrade of components when desired.

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4. In regard to claim 7, note Berstis discloses that the microprocessor stores a listing of identification information associated with permitted viewers of the web site display (column 5, lines 1-7; the information concerning the recipient for each picture is considered to include the user list).

5. In regard to claim 8, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless digital camera system as claimed in claim 7. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose the use of a web server that includes an authorization processor for checking the identification information of a potential viewer prior to allowing access to the defined web site. Official notice is taken that the concepts and advantages of an authorization processor for checking the identification information (i.e. login information such as a username and password) of a potential viewer prior to allowing access to the defined web site are notoriously well known and expected in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary reference to include the use of an authorization processor for checking the identification information of a potential viewer prior to allowing access to the defined web site in order to protect the information from unauthorized viewing.

6. In regard to claim 9, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless digital camera system as claimed in claim 7. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose the use of a web server that includes an administrative feature capability to provide web display design, viewer authorization and statistical functionality. Official notice is taken that the

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concepts and advantages of a computer that has an administrative feature capability to provide web display design, viewer authorization and statistical functionality are notoriously well known and expected in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary reference to include the use of a computer that has an administrative feature capability to provide web display design, viewer authorization and statistical functionality in order to allow the user to design the website according to the user's preferences and to protect the information from unauthorized viewing by monitoring access and only allowing access to specified individuals.

7. In regard to claims 11, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless digital camera system as claimed in claim 1. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose that the camera includes an automatic recording element to prompt the camera to record an updated image at a predetermined rate. Official notice is taken that the concepts and advantages of using a camera that includes an automatic recording element to prompt the camera to record an updated image at a predetermined rate are notoriously well known and expected in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary reference to include the use of a camera that includes an automatic recording element to prompt the camera to record an updated image at a predetermined rate in order capture time lapse or motion detected frames of photography for applications such as surveillance so as to save storage space and bandwidth.

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8. In regard to claim 13, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless camera system as claimed in claim 11. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose that the predetermined rate is sufficient to record an essentially streaming image signal. Official notice is taken that the concepts and advantages of using a predetermined rate that is sufficient to record an essentially streaming image signal are notoriously well known and expected in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the primary device to include the use of a predetermined rate sufficient to record an essentially streaming image signal in order to distribute the video over a network in real time.

9. Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (US Patent # 6,721,001) in view of Strandwitz et al. (US Patent # 6,522,352) and in further view of Bodnar et al. (US Publication # 2004/0218045) and further in view of Steinberg (US Publication # 2002/0041329).

10. In regard to claim 2, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless digital camera system as claimed in claim 1. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose the use of a defined web site that comprises an interactive web page allowing a viewer to input reply information forwarded to the wireless digital electric camera over the wireless communication link and received and stored in the camera. Although the primary reference does not explicitly state that the web site is interactive, it implied in order for the users to interact with the web page. Steinberg discloses the viewer inputting a reply that is forwarded to the wireless digital electric camera over the communication line and

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stored in the camera (paragraph 0048; figure 6B: 73; the camera receives personal messages such as the one seen in figure 5). Steinberg teaches that the use of replies sent over the network is preferred in order to keep the user updated on important information (paragraph 0048; and figure 5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary device to include the use sending replies to the camera as suggested by Steinberg.

11. In regard to claim 3, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless digital camera system as claimed in claim 2. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary device lacks the use of a web page with hot links to listen to audio files associated with the displayed image data. As to the limitation that the hot links are used to listen to audio files associated with the displayed image data, this is merely an intended use and therefore holds no patentable weight. Official notice is taken that the concepts and advantages of using hot links in a web page are notoriously well known and expected in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary to include the use of hot links in order to organize the web page with other web pages and files as desired by the user.

12. In regard to claim 4, note Strandwitz discloses the use of a display on the electronic camera (figure 2:140). Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar fails to disclose that the defined web site includes a dialog box for inputting a text response. Official notice is taken that the concepts and advantages of using a dialog box on a web page to enter text is

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notoriously well known and expected in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary reference to include the use of text box to enter text for the reply in order to organize the input characters to be sent.

13. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (US Patent # 6,721,001) in view of Strandwitz et al. (US Patent # 6,522,352), in further view of Bodnar et al. (US Publication # 2004/0218045), and further in view of Steinberg (US Publication # 2002/0041329) and Kanevsky et al. (US Patent # 6,618,704).

14. In regard to claim 5, note Strandwitz discloses the transmission of audio files to the wireless camera to play the audio through the speaker (column 3, lines 30-39). Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar fails to disclose a text-to-speech element for converting the text response to an audio file. Kanevsky discloses the use of a text-to-speech element for converting the text response to an audio file (column 4, lines 30-34). Kanevsky teaches that the use of a text-to-speech (TTS) synthesizer is preferred in order to convert text that is input from a hearing-impaired person into an audio clip to be heard by a non-hearing-impaired person. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary reference to include the use of a text-to-speech (TTS) synthesizer as suggested by Kanevsky.

15. Claims 10 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (US Patent # 6,721,001) in view of Strandwitz et al. (US Patent # 6,522,352) and in further view of Bodnar et al. (US Publication # 2004/0218045), and further in view of Osterweil (US Patent # 6,049,281).

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16. In regard to claim 10, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless digital camera system as claimed in claim 7. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose the use a web server that includes administrative feature capability to create an alert message when significant changes in sequential photographs of the same image occur. Osterweil discloses the use of an alarm that is activated when significant changes in sequential photographs of the same image occur (column 9, lines 40-46). Osterweil teaches that the use of an alarm that creates an alert message when significant changes in sequential photographs of the same image occur is preferred in order to notify others of a movement that has taken place (column 1, lines 16-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary device to include the use of an alarm that creates an alert message when significant changes in sequential photographs of the same image occur as suggested by Osterweil.

17. In regard to claim 15, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless digital camera system as claimed in claim 1. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose that the network-based server includes an alert element for transmitting an alert signal to potential viewers when new image information is received. Osterweil discloses the use of an alarm that is activated when significant changes in sequential photographs of the same image occur (column 9, lines 40-46; the image that is captured when the change is recognized is considered to be the new image that is received). Osterweil teaches that the use of an alarm that creates an alert message when significant changes in

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sequential photographs of the same image occur is preferred in order to notify others of a movement that has taken place (column 1, lines 16-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary device to include the use of an alarm that creates an alert message when significant changes in sequential photographs of the same image occur as suggested by Osterweil.

18. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (US Patent # 6,721,001) in view of Strandwitz et al. (US Patent # 6,522,352) and in further view of Bodnar et al. (US Publication # 2004/0218045), and further in view of Needham (US Patent # 6,803,945) and Steinberg (US Publication # 2002/0041329).

19. In regard to claim 12, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless camera system as claimed in claim 11.

Berstis discloses the use of a wireless packet network (column 2, lines 34-36).

Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose that each updated image is automatically transmitted through the network to the web server. Needham discloses that each updated image is automatically transmitting over the network (column 2, lines 60-65). Needham teaches that automatically transmitting updated images over the network is preferred in order to record a surveillance area whenever something moves (column 2, lines 60-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary device to include the use of automatically transmitting updated images over the network as suggested by Needham.

Therefore, it can also be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose that replies are sent to the camera over the same network as the images. Steinberg discloses the use of the network to send replies to the camera (paragraph 0047-paragraph 0048). Steinberg teaches that the use replies sent over the network is preferred in order to keep the user updated on important information (paragraph 0048; and figure 5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary device to include the use of sending replies to the camera as suggested by Steinberg.

20. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (US Patent # 6,721,001) in view of Strandwitz et al. (US Patent # 6,522,352) and in further view of Bodnar et al. (US Publication # 2004/0218045), and further in view of Needham (US Patent # 6,803,945).

21. In regard to claim 14, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Bodnar discloses the use of a wireless camera system as claimed in claim 13. Berstis discloses the use of a wireless packet network (column 2, lines 34-36).

Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose that the streaming image signal is automatically transmitted through the network to the web server.

Needham discloses that the image signal is automatically transmitting over the network (column 2, lines 60-65). Needham teaches that automatically transmitting images over the network is preferred in order to record a surveillance area whenever something moves (column 2, lines 60-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary device to include the use of automatically

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transmitting images over the network and sending replies to the camera as suggested by Needham.

22. Claims 16-20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (US Patent # 6,721,001) in view of Strandwitz et al. (US Patent # 6,522,352) and in further view of Steinberg (US Publication # 2002/0041329).

23. In regard to claim 16, note Berstis discloses the use of an interactive digital electronic camera (figure 1: 102-130 is considered to be the camera) including camera elements for capturing image information (column 2, lines 55-60; and figure 2: 204) and digitizing the same for storing in a memory unit in said camera (column 2, lines 55-65; and figure 2: 206 and 214), an audio element including a microphone and storage arrangement for recording audio input (column 2, lines 55-65; and figure 2: 210), a microprocessor for storing recorded images and audio information and associating one with the other (column 3, lines 18-23; and figure 2: 208 and 214), and processing and compressing the stored files for transmission (column 3, lines 18-24), and a wireless modem arrangement coupled to the microprocessor for transmitting compressed image and audio information over an associated wireless packet network (column 2, lines 34-36) to a defined network-based server (column 2, lines 40-46).

Therefore, it can be seen that Berstis fails to disclose a camera having a display element for displaying information, a speaker for playing received audio signals, and receiving incoming information for storage in said microprocessor. Strandwitz discloses the use of a display element that displays received information (column 3, lines 25-30; and figure 2: 140), a speaker for playing received audio signals and information for

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storage is received in said microprocessor (column 3, lines 30-40; and figure 2: 150; in the Berstis device the communications are controlled by the microprocessor, therefore, the Strandwitz device is relied on for its receiving and playback capability). It is commonly known in the art that the use of a display and speaker for playback are preferred in order to review previously recorded media for communication/editing purposes. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Berstis device to include the use a display element for displaying information, a speaker for playing received audio signals, and receiving incoming information for storage in said microprocessor as suggested by Strandwitz.

Therefore, it can also be seen that Berstis fails to disclose a camera receiving replies received over a network. Steinberg discloses the use of the network to send replies to the camera (paragraph 0047- paragraph 0048). Steinberg teaches that the use replies sent over the network is preferred in order to keep the user updated on important information (paragraph 0048; and figure 5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Berstis device to include the use of replies sent over a wireless packet network as suggested by Steinberg.

24. In regard to claim 17, note Steinberg discloses the use of a display element for displaying received text information from a viewer of camera images stored on the network-based server (paragraph 0034, lines 1-7; and figure 2: 48).

25. In regard to claim 18, note although the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Steinberg does not explicitly disclose that the wireless modem

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comprises a wireless network protocol, however, it is inherent because in order for the wireless modem to operate, it has to follow the protocol for the network.

26. In regard to claim 19, note Berstis discloses that the microprocessor stores a listing of identification information associated with permitted viewers of the transmitted images (column 5, lines 1-7; the information concerning the recipient for each picture is considered to include the user list).

27. In regard to claims 20, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Steinberg discloses the use of a wireless digital camera as claimed in claim 19. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose that the camera includes an automatic recording element to prompt the camera to record an updated image at a predetermined rate. Official notice is taken that the concepts and advantages of using a camera that includes an automatic recording element to prompt the camera to record an updated image at a predetermined rate are notoriously well known and expected in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary reference to include the use of a camera that includes an automatic recording element to prompt the camera to record an updated image at a predetermined rate in order capture time lapse or motion detected frames of photography for applications such as surveillance so as to save storage space and bandwidth.

28. In regard to claim 22, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Steinberg discloses the use of a wireless camera system as claimed in claim 20. Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose that the

predetermined rate is sufficient to record an essentially streaming image signal. Official notice is taken that the concepts and advantages of using a predetermined rate that is sufficient to record an essentially streaming image signal are notoriously well known and expected in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the primary device to include the use of a predetermined rate sufficient to record an essentially streaming image signal in order to distribute the video over a network in real time.

29. Claims 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (US Patent # 6,721,001) in view of Strandwitz et al. (US Patent # 6,522,352) and in further view of Steinberg (US Publication # 2002/0041329), and further in view of Needham (US Patent # 6,803,945).

30. In regard to claim 21, note the primary reference of Berstis in view of Strandwitz and Steinberg discloses the use of a wireless camera system as claimed in claim 20. Berstis discloses the use of a wireless packet network (column 2, lines 34-36).

Therefore, it can be seen that the primary reference fails to disclose that each updated image is automatically transmitted through the network to the web server. Needham discloses that each updated image is automatically transmitting over the network (column 2, lines 60-65). Needham teaches that automatically transmitting updated images over the network is preferred in order to record a surveillance area whenever something moves (column 2, lines 60-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the primary device to include the use of automatically transmitting updated images over the network as suggested by Needham.

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31. In regard to claim 23, note Needham discloses that the image signal is automatically transmitting over the network (column 2, lines 60-65).

32.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 20040201695A: note the use of wireless transmission of image content.

US005319698A: note the use of wireless transmission of image content.

US 20040201701A1: note the use of wireless transmission of image content.

US 20030090572A1: note the use of wireless transmission of image content and other information back to the camera.

US006628325B1: note the use of wireless transmission of image content.

US006784924B2: note the use of different forms of communication for the transmission of image content.

US006628899B1: note the use of wireless transmission of image content.

US006720990B1: note the use of transmission of image content over the Internet.

US006317039B1: note the use of wireless transmission of image content.

US006750902B1: note the use of wireless transmission of image content.

US 20040218050A1: note the use of wireless transmission of image content.

US006636259B1: note the use of the transmission of images over the Internet.

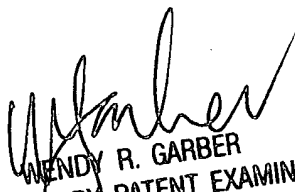
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chriss S. Yoder, III whose telephone number is (703) 305-0344. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on (703) 305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CSY
November 9, 2004


WENDY R. GARBER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600